

ACHIEVEMENTS OF RADIO AMATEURS

Whereas Congress has expressed its determination in section 1 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151) to promote safety of life and property through the use of radio communications;

Whereas Congress, in section 7 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 157) established a policy to encourage the provision of new technologies and services;

Whereas Congress, in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934, defined radio stations to include amateur stations operated by persons interested in radio technique without pecuniary interest;

Whereas the Federal Communicatins Commission has created an effective regulatory framework through which the amateur radio service has been able to achieve the goals of the service;

Whereas these regulations¹, set forth in part 97 of title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulationss clairfy and extend the purposes of the amateur radio service as a--

- (1) voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications;
- (2) contributing service to the advancement of the telecommunications infrastructure;
- (3) service which encourages improvement of an individual's technical and operating skills;
- (4) service providing a national reservior of trained operators, technicians and electronics experts; and
- (5) service enhancing international good will;

Whereas Contress finds that members of the amateur radio service community has provided invaluable emergency communcations services

¹97.1. Basis and purpose. The rules and regulations in this part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

- (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
- (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
- (c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

following such disasters as Hurricane Hugo, Andrew, and Iniki, the Mt. St. Helens eruption, the Loma Prieta earthquake, tornadoes, floods, wild fires, and industrial accidents in great number and variety across the Nation; and

Whereas Congress finds that the amateur radio service, has make a contribuion to our Nation's communciations by its crafting, in 1961, of the first Earth satellite licensed by the Federal Communciations Commission, by its proof-of-concept for search and rescue satellites, by its continued exploration of the low Earth orbit in particular pointing the way to commercial use thereof in the 1990's by its pioneering of communications using reflections from meteor trails, a technique now used for certain government and commercial communications, and by its leading role in development of low-cost, practical data transmission by radio which increasingly is being put to extensive use in, for instance, the land mobile service;

Now, therefore be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United Sates of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1 FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS OF CONGRESS.

Congress finds and declares that--

- (1) radio amateurs are hereby commended for their contributions to technical progress in electronics, and for their emergency radio communications in times of disaster;
- (2) the Federal Communications Commission is urged to continue and enhance the develpment of the amateur radio service as a public benefit by adopting rules and regulations which encourage the use of new technologies within the amateur radio service; and
- (3) reasonable accommodation should be made for the effective operation of amateur radio from residences, private vehicles and public areas, and that regulation at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage amateur radio operation as a public benefit.

Approved October 22, 1994